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### Panther - September 2005 - Vol. LXXXIV No. 3

Prairie View A&M University

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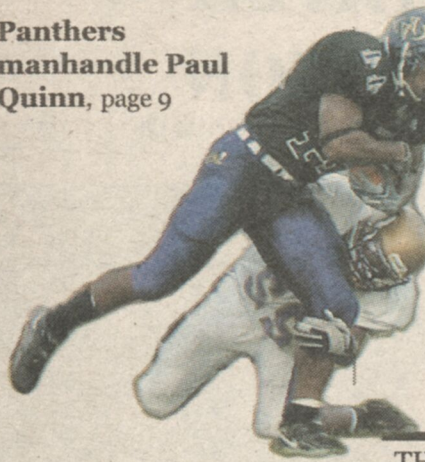
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**Panthers  
manhandle Paul  
Quinn, page 9**



THE



"Something inside so strong..."

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY



See what's new  
with Colette in 'The  
Hill Life,' page 8

## Latino Heritage Month Celebrating culture at Prairie View

**By Raquel Clark**  
Panther Staff

Rising from their original Spanish descent, Latinos have become the largest minority in the United States. According to the 2003 U.S. Census Bureau, Latinos account for 39.9 percent of the population, passing blacks who make up 36.4 percent.

To celebrate the culture and vernacular of the Latino race, *Prairie View* is celebrating its first Latino Heritage Month.

Starting Sept. 15, 2005, Latino month will consist of various activities and cultural experiences.

Events planned include Salsa on the Hill, Aztec dancing, Latino movie night, and Ballet Grafirna, just to name a few.

Faculty and staff are also encouraged to participate in Latino Heritage Month.

"We are targeting the

faculty so that students can attend events during the day," said Mrs. Amparo Navarrette of the College of Arts and Sciences. "I will also be teaching faculty and staff Spanish, and they will be learning how to salsa and dance."

"I feel that Latino month is important because it will give a better understanding of each culture," said Cory Neblette, a senior political science major.

"We, as African Americans, don't realize the similarities that exist among Latinos and blacks."

Students are encouraged to attend the events of Latino month and should be on the lookout for flyers announcing

each experience.

"Latino month is a way for us Hispanic students to share our commonalities," said Claudia Munoz, a student here at Prairie View. "Come out and have fun with us, we will eat, drink, and be merry."

"Yeah," chimed in Alejandra, a student eager to share her culture with the world. "Come and be with us. I want us to be together, so we can see how similar we are."



**Making history:** Students discuss events for Latino Heritage Month.

## Services offered to students affected by Hurricane Katrina



photo by Terrence Gilbert

**Welcome to Prairie View:** Transfer students affected by Hurricane Katrina receive information on campus services and counseling from University College residence life.

## Campus safety Students advised to be cautious

**By Latisha Johnson-Wallace**  
News Editor

As the new school year gradually moves forward, students become more and more bogged down with class work and have less time for playing and games.

More often than not, students as they get more comfortable on campus let their guards down slightly, a move that can ultimately harm them.

Safety on Prairie View's campus is an issue rarely discussed, and students are more apt to forget basic safety rules when they get more intertwined in their surroundings.

Sergeant Noel Shelton of the Prairie View A&M University Police Department assures students that PV police are "patrolling parking lots to decrease burglary and letting people know they cannot loiter in the parking lots," a way to decrease crime on PV's campus. Shelton encourages students to "report suspicious conduct to the police as soon as possible," and to be "as informative about clothing, conduct, why it's suspicious, and physical descriptions."

Already on Prairie View's campus, there are programs available to aid individuals to be safe. Blue emergency boxes are placed sporadically to provide an aid to students who may need an escort service after dark, or to report suspicious behavior.

"There has been an increased use in the escort service, and more students

are taking advantage," said Shelton.

Students are encouraged to remember to be cautious of their surroundings, to use wise judgment and not set themselves up as prey. A major concern police have pertains to students taking care of their valuables.

Shelton's advice to students is that anytime they go home they take their electronic valuables, including laptops, Xbox, PS2, because "most break-ins are done by people who know you have the item. So anything of value, take home."

As students become more complacent and let their guard down, they could become victims of crime. Students are expected to know their surroundings, report any mischievous behavior and abide by all campus rules.



photo by Otis Clayborne II

**Pick up the phone:**  
Emergency booths are located all over campus.



# In the news...

## Authorities find twin babies dead in home

MIDLAND, Texas (AP) — Authorities have found twin babies dead in a home, the Howard County sheriff said.

The babies were discovered Sunday morning in the Big Spring-area home, but there were few other details available, Howard County Sheriff Dale Walker said. The Texas Rangers will join the sheriff's office in the investigation.

## Cyclist charged with manslaughter after hitting, killing

CORVALLIS, Ore. (AP) — A bicyclist has been charged with manslaughter after he ran through a stop sign and struck and killed a 71-year-old woman, police said Monday.

Jean Calder died at Good Samaritan Hospital after she was struck Friday night as she crossed a street at an unmarked crosswalk, Corvallis police Capt. Ron Noble said.

Calder had the right of way when the bike rider struck her, police said.

Christopher A. Lightning, 51, was charged with manslaughter and reckless driving. The incident was serious enough to warrant criminal charges because the bicyclist disregarded the stop sign, Noble said.

"A car and a bicycle are both vehicles and if they are operated in a way that could be criminal then charges are filed equally in both situations," he said. "He was going right through a stop sign."

## Telluride to vote on enforcement of marijuana laws

TELLURIDE, Colo. (AP) — City residents will vote this fall on whether to make enforcing laws against adults possessing small amounts of marijuana the lowest priority of the town marshal.

A group of citizens got the referendum on the ballot after a successful petition drive.

Town Council member Stu Fraser said he didn't believe the measure would pass.

If it does, it will be challenged in court, he said, because administrative and judicial functions of the town government can't be put to a democratic vote.

## Louisiana lawmakers ask for bipartisanship in Katrina response

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — The leaders of the Republican and Democratic factions of the state House of Representatives offered a joint statement of support for the rebuilding efforts after Hurricane Katrina and criticized partisan debates in Washington about the storm.

"Some members of our respective national parties are attempting to gain political favor or advantage during this unprecedented catastrophe. This disaster has impacted everyone in our community, white, black, rich, poor, Republican and Democrat," said Rep. Eric LaFleur, chairman of the House's Democratic Caucus, and Rep. Jim Tucker, chairman of the House's Republican Caucus.

Louisiana's legislature generally hasn't divided into party factions, although signs of more organized GOP lawmakers emerged in the most recent legislative session. But LaFleur and Tucker noted the history of work across party lines in the legislature.

"We reject any efforts by our national parties to play partisan politics in an effort to divide people along party lines at this most critical time in our state's history," their statement said.

## Communities vote on schools, roads, smoking

HOUSTON (AP) — Voters in several Texas communities took to the polls defeating a government center bond and two school bond proposals, and approving a road bond issue and a restaurant smoking ban.

In the Houston area, residents in the Spring and Royal independent school districts, the cities of Pearland and Magnolia, and Montgomery County voted on a series of ballot issues at the polls Saturday.

Spring ISD: Voters defeated a \$385 million bond election that included construction of eight new schools, land for 11 more schools, 52 new buses, laptop computers for all high school students plus other construction and technology expenses.

Montgomery County: Voters approved a \$160 million road bond measure intended to speed up improvements on major thoroughfares.

Royal ISD: Voters defeated a \$31.1 million bond issue that included construction of a new high school, improvements to other schools facilities and paying off debt in the district's maintenance and operation budget.



Photo courtesy AP

**Facing Death:** Deathrow inmate Frances Newton will be the first African American woman executed in the state of Texas since the Civil War era.

## Texas parole board rejects clemency plea

By Michael Graczyk  
Associated Press

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — A condemned female inmate lost her case before the parole board and a federal court Monday as her lawyers tried to stop her scheduled execution.

Frances Newton, 40, faces lethal injection Wednesday evening for the slayings of her husband and two children at their Houston apartment 18 years ago.

The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles, in a 7-0 vote, refused to recommend to the governor that her death sentence be commuted to life in prison.

The vote came several hours after the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals refused to stop the punishment, a decision that sent her lawyers to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, the state's highest criminal court, already had rejected a similar ap-

peal.

Newton has denied any role in the killings of her husband, Adrian, and their children, Alton, 7, and Farrah, 21 months. She says a drug dealer she knew only as Charlie may have been responsible.

Prosecutors say Newton killed her husband and children to claim \$100,000 in insurance money.

Last winter, Newton came within two hours of execution before Gov. Rick Perry gave her a 120-day reprieve to allow more evidence testing on the .25-caliber pistol prosecutors said was used to fatally shoot the victims.

In March, the new ballistics tests confirmed the earlier findings. Harris County then rescheduled her execution for Wednesday.

In all, 10 women have been executed in the United States since the death penalty resumed in 1976.

Newton would be the first black woman executed in Texas — the nation's most active death penalty state — since executions resumed there in 1982.

Want to write for The Panther but need a little help?

Join us for **Newsriting 101**

Monday, Sept. 26, 2005 @ 5:30 pm

MSC rm 219



## What is this on my fee receipt?

A look at what Prairie View students are paying for while in school

Current Term Fall 2005

Effective Date	Subcode	Description	Charges	Credits
04-17-05	00206	RECORDS PROCESSING FEE	17.00	0
04-17-05	10015	IDENTIFICATION CARD FEE	5.00	0
04-17-05	10030	STUDENT HEALTH FEE	65.00	0
08-09-05	10500	COMPUTER ACCESS FEE	216.00	0
04-17-05	10505	STUDENT CENTER COMPLEX FEE	40.00	0
08-09-05	10510	LIBRARY ACCESS FEE	180.00	0
08-15-05	10750	PARKING FEE	40.00	0
08-09-05	11005	DESIGNATED TUITION	1,134.00	0
04-17-05	11045	STUDENT SERVICE FEE	150.00	0
08-09-05	11055	TUITION - RESIDENT	900.00	0
04-17-05	11075	INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION FEE	1.00	0
04-17-05	11080	ATHLETIC FEE	150.00	0

By Jameka Merriweather  
Panther Staff

Students are required to pay various fees and are entitled to understand exactly what those fees are covering.

For example, all students are required to pay a student health fee to cover the cost of providing basic health care and urgent care services in the university's health center.

Students are entitled to unlimited office visits to the health center and a 15 percent discount on lab, x-ray, and pharmacy services.

Students are also required to pay board authorized tuition, a designated tuition fee, in order to help defray the cost of instruction and operation of the university.

An athletic fee is charged to all students to help increase scholarships, help

defray the cost of upgrades to facilities and equipment, and assist in salaries of coaches.

In addition, students pay an international education fee which provides funding to assist students participating in international student exchange or study programs.

Furthermore, all students are required to pay a student center fee, which is used to support the construction, operation and maintenance of the Memorial Student Center.

## What Prairie View means to them Perspectives from students, faculty

By Katriska Cotton  
Panther Staff

Prairie View A&M University is a historically black university that produces productive people.

It is the home to many genuine and unique individuals who embrace the values and strengths which have helped Prairie View prevail through its 130 years of existence.

Before actually attending and seeing first hand the true identity of this university, many students believed this university was only a party school and it would be easy to graduate from Prairie View.

Senior Monique Guillory came to Prairie View to follow family tradition and believes that Prairie View is a good institution of higher learning.

When asked what myths about PVAMU that students and faculty would like to dispel and whether most students believe they are getting a better education at PV, students and faculty had a lot to say.

Guillory said, "Prairie View is not all about parties and negativity, people who attend this institution are actually striving to get their degrees and a good job afterward. I feel that I am getting a good education and a real world experience of college life which is most important."

"Our institution is full

of culture and history, and if I had to dispel anything about Prairie View it would be that it is a party school," she added.

"We do have fun, but at the same time when it comes to taking care of business that is what I do."

"I believe that Prairie View is one of the best universities in Texas and that the education I am receiving is fair," said senior Jamaur Barnes.

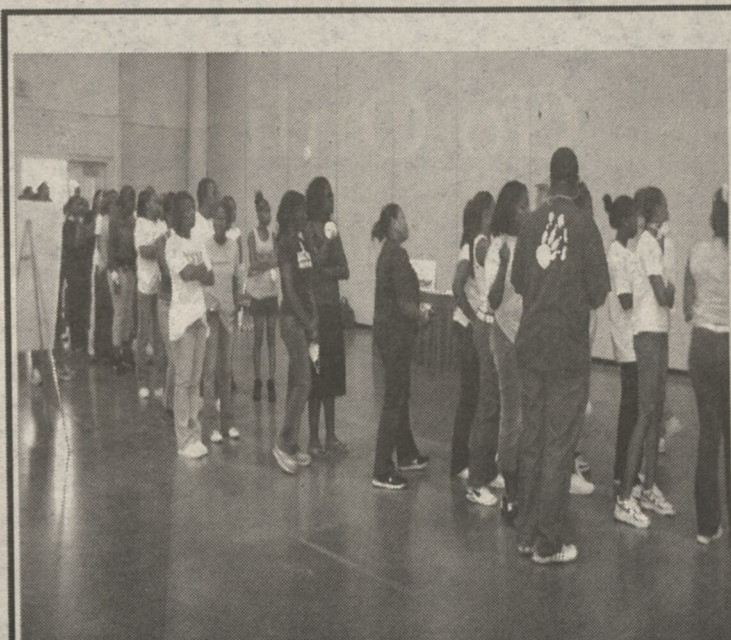
Prairie View A&M University is dedicated to excellence in research, teaching, and service.

Communications professor Shannan Butler expects his students to do their best and achieve every goal they set out to achieve.

"I hope my students will develop a broad understanding of the communications landscape as well as learn critical skills to analyze and evaluate the media which they both produce and consume."

"The approach I take towards today's communication courses is pretty mild; the same as I would take at any other undergraduate focused communications department," said Butler.

Prairie View A&M University is well known for its many achievements and excellence. Students and faculty alike want to keep Prairie View an honorable place of higher learning, a place for achievement and keeping school spirit alive and well.



Lending a helping hand: PV students prepare to help evacuees at the Astrodome last Friday.

## THE PANTHER

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF  
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

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# Got Facebook? PV students do



**Can you post something on my wall?:** Prairie View students are now able to interact online through personal profiles and interest groups.

**By Jameka Merriweather**  
Panther Staff

An online "addiction" is what facebook.com has become to many college students. Facebook.com is an online directory that is currently limited to college students.

Students may connect with peers from their school or other supported schools across the country.

Membership into this online directory is free, but requires a college email address.

The history behind Facebook.com is one of a college student searching to make his campus more "friendly." Harvard sophomore Mark Zuckerberg wanted a way for all Harvard students to connect across the campus.

Apparently, the atmosphere on Harvard's campus was not as inviting socially as it was academically. Thus, on Feb. 4, 2004, Facebook.com emerged.

Initially, facebook was

solely on the campus of Harvard University, now it has engulfed over 300 schools. During the summer of 2005, Prairie View A & M University was added to the list of supported schools on facebook.com.

Consequently, it has become a hit among Prairie View students.

Students create individual profiles which contain basic personal and contact information. Students design profiles that exhibit and enhance their personalities.

Best friends for life or future wives or husbands can meet on facebook. Students can make new friends or find old ones.

To become a friend on facebook, a friend request is sent to someone and with the person's confirmation, a new friendship arises or an old one is rekindled.

"I found my friend from high school on facebook. I hadn't seen her since my freshman year of high school," exclaims sopho-

more engineering major Shannon Wilson, when asked about the benefits of facebook.com.

Also, students can create groups, whose members share a common interest. Prairie View students have formed groups that range from particular majors to religious affiliations.

There are discussion boards for each group, where members can discuss various topics.

Therefore, students can use the interaction with other students, maybe in their particular major or similar situation, to gain knowledge and advice.

Recently, a high school version of Facebook.com has been launched. This version will not interfere with the college version. There will not be any interaction between the two.

However, now high school students have the opportunity to benefit from thefacebook.com as well.

## Go Online

@

## PVPANTHER.COM



# Student recognition banquet

## Press Release

More than 250 students will be honored at the annual Dr. Irvine C. Gordon Student Recognition Banquet on Monday, Sept. 19 at 6 p.m., in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom at Prairie View A&M University.

The banquet kicks off the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Career Fair at the university which is slated for Sept. 21 and 22 at 9 a.m. in the Memorial Student Center.

The banquet is designed to recognize the students of Prairie View A&M University who participated in the Co-Op

assignments and internships during the 2004-2005 school year.

This past year, students participated in these experiences with major corporations, universities, medical schools, government and nonprofit agencies throughout the country.

The program enabled the students to conduct research, manage special programs, serve as camp counselors and mentors for young people and also gain practical experiences in their future career choices.

The speaker for the occasion is Laurence Stuart, president of College to Career Guidance Seminars of Houston, who will also conduct a profes-

sional development seminar for the students.

Several students have been selected to share their experiences with the audience.

The banquet was established several years ago and named in honor of the late Dr. Irvine C. Gordon, former director of cooperative education at the university, who made a significant impact on students who participated in the program.

Dr. Gordon also served as the director for the university's Upward Bound program.

Students are encouraged to attend the technical and non-technical career fairs.

# What can SGA do for you?

By Raquel Clark  
Panther Staff

What comes to your mind when you think of SGA? Do you think of the structure of the campus? Do you think of the eyes and ears of the students? Or do you think of Courtney Smith?

Well, if any of these things come to mind, you are on the right track.

So, what can Student Government Association do for you? "SGA is here to be the eyes and ears of the student," said

Olu Olusanya, who is currently the president of the student body.

"Our purpose is to represent the students' opinions and be the middle man between the students and administration."

Here at Prairie View, you can count on the Student Government Association to make things happen for the students that might not happen otherwise, according to Olu.

Since students know what students need, who better to represent our concerns than our own peers?

"One of our goals was to get a shuttle running, which

we got," stated Olu.

"We are also working on getting a new basketball court in the student park. Therefore, students can be assured that SGA is working hard on their side."

One of the staff's goals is to make life on campus a lot more convenient for tuition payers, and with more policy and regulation being added daily, SGA is headed to a more structured future.

So, what can you do for SGA? If you want to get involved, all it takes is an application and time.

# Siblings donate \$250,000 to pay for scholarships

## Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — A woman whose mother left the University of Kansas during the Great Depression because money was tight has agreed to give \$250,000 to the school to pay for scholarships. Nancy Sanders said her mother, Dorothy Sanders, was determined that she and her

sister, Kathryn, go to college.

"We saved a dollar a week religiously," Sanders, a 1967 graduate of the school, said in a news release Monday. "My dad ... set up special jars into which we put a dollar a week for each of us, and it was converted to U.S. Savings Bonds. We were going to college. There was never a question."

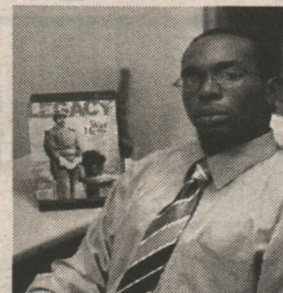
To recognize her parents' dedication, Sanders and

her husband, William Crowe, a librarian at the university's Spencer Library, pledged the money through their estate.

The gift will provide financial support for Sanders Scholars, students employed at the university's libraries who work with librarian mentors.

Sanders, a former librarian, now manages a family farm in southwest Douglas County

# SGA Speaks Out



SGA president Oludayo Olusanya

Thank you Panthers for showing your pride at the first home football game. The Baby Dome party on Saturday was a success and the proceeds will be going to the Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund.

Open house is coming soon; keep checking your PV email address. The career fair will kick off on Tuesday, September 20, 2005, campus elections will also begin.

Results will be posted on Wednesday, September 21, 2005. "Celebrating our Afro-Latino Roots" kicks off this Friday in the MSC auditorium at 11:00 am.

Students, do not forget the SGA office is always open, come by and voice your concerns and opinions.

## Grand-Opening

The Greek Shop Philco International

September 17, 2005 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

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Join the Panther Staff

Meetings Every Monday

@

5 p.m.

Want to write?

Take some pictures?



## The Game of Infidelity: Men

**Fredrick Crawford**  
Panther Staff

This is a general overview of why men cheat while adding food for thought for those which this article applies to. These are the views of one individual. Just ask that you be open-minded to a moral issue.

"Baby, we were just kissing. It's not like we had sex or anything. I love you! I would never hurt you like that. Hmm, kissing someone else and denying that you didn't do anything wrong; welcome to the game of infidelity (Men's edition).

First and foremost, infidelity means unfaithfulness, and in our terms, cheating. There is probably no concrete answer to why men cheat, but one can only come up with reasons. Men practice infidelity for reasons such as: she cheated first, she's constantly nagging him, or he has lost interest in her. Main reasons may include not being prepared, trophy hunting, and sex.

Men may cheat because they are not ready for the type of relationship a good woman brings. This woman takes care of her man while helping to nurture the relationship. But some men are too childish and immature to know how good they have it; until she is gone of course.

The Bible states in 1 Corinthians 13:11, "When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child, but when I became a man, I put away childish things." Some men have not learned how to stop acting like children in relationships. "What her eyes don't see, her heart doesn't feel." It is time out for playing

games.

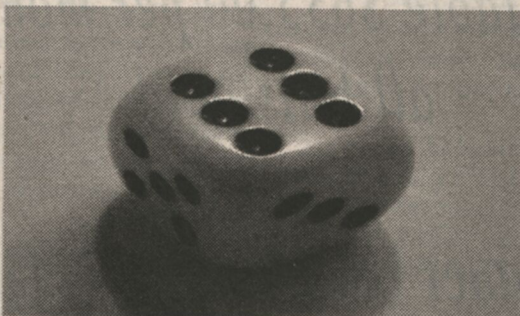
"Yeah, my girl is something special, and she really cares for a brother, but I know I can pull that shorty right there." Other men just can't leave the thrill of trophy hunting alone no matter who they are with. The desire to boost their ego and an imaginable taste to gain approval from the boys are why men trophy hunt.

What better way to prove to yourself and your boys that you are a cheating man? Who wouldn't want to be proud of that? This trophy hunting man has a variety of flavors he likes such as: Asian, black, white, Latino, thick, petite, etc. They even run the risk of getting unwanted flavors such as: AIDS, syphilis, genital herpes, and gonorrhea.

No one deserves to be treated as if they are nothing even if they deserve it. Cheating on a woman, especially a good one just proves how jacked up a man's character is. Trust is gained through the actions of others. All you cheating men are breaking hearts, degrading your worth, making it extremely difficult for the next man who comes afterward, and most importantly embarrassing yourself before God. When will we give our women some men to be proud of rather than having them wondering how long will it be before he cheats.

*"Bread of deceit is sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel."*  
Proverbs 20:17

Stay tuned for "The Game of Infidelity: Women"



**Casting of the die:** Sometimes it seems as if relationships are a part of a game where there are no winners

### Commentary

## Storms will come

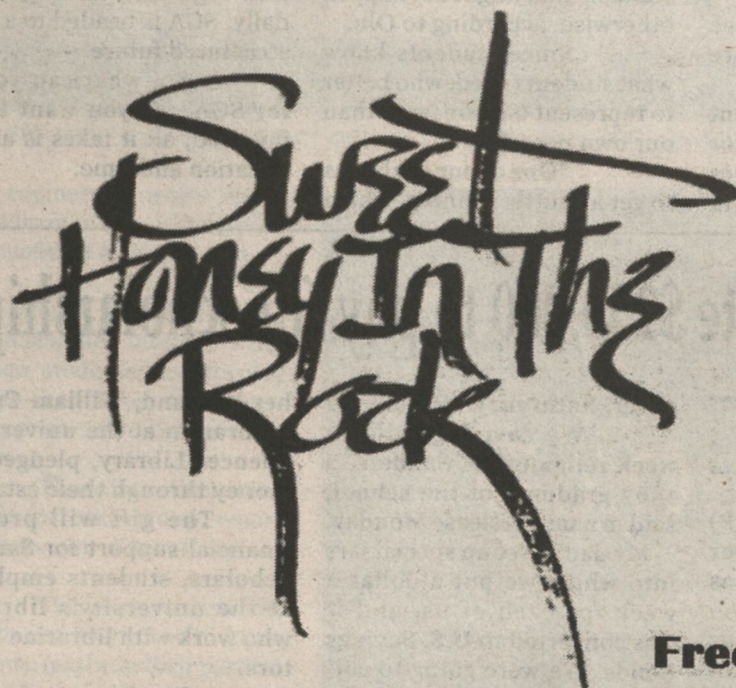
**Chris Allen**  
Panther Staff

With Hurricane Katrina still etched in our minds, many thoughts come to mind when I ponder all the destruction, damage and devastation brought by the massive storm. I couldn't help but think about the citizens of New Orleans and how they must have felt. Many people were caught by surprise by the high waters and loss of life.

For the most part, there was absolutely nothing people could do to prevent the storm from coming. All they could do is properly prepare for the direct hit and pray they would

come out victorious. The point I am trying to make is that just as Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans and Mississippi coast, "storms will arise in our personal lives and test our faith, strength, and courage. Instead of trying to stop them from coming, we as students need to be able to recognize that it is only a storm and that with recognition, preparation, and faith we will come out victorious. Storms are set up to test our faith and make us stronger. I am a personal example of perseverance and survival. After many storms in my life, broken hearts, failing health and other factors I am still standing strong and chasing my dreams. As a former PV student, I could focus on my misfortune but I rather focus my time and energy on showing my peers that we can sur-

vive the storm. It may not have gone the way we planned, but we will arrive at the same destination. I pictured myself graduating in the class of 2004 from Prairie View. Unfortunately, with certain storms in my life I was forced to transfer but regardless of what school I graduate from, I will graduate. Hurricane Katrina should serve as a wake up call for students in similar situations and storms. We all have storms in our lives. As a college student, I know sometimes the road becomes tough and family and friends may not understand. My best advice is to give the situation to God and say this one line. I have the most precious thing anybody could ever want. LIFE!!!



**Free Admission**

**Memorial Student Center Auditorium**  
**Thursday, September 22, 2005**  
**7:00 PM**

Sponsored by

**The Office of Student Activities & Leadership**  
*Panther Cultural Series*

Admission tickets available Mon., Sept. 19 in the Office of Student Activities & Leadership, MSC RM 221.  
For more information, call 936-857-2016.



## Letter to the Editor

### Academic enslavement

A couple of weeks ago, one of my professors gave an assignment to his class that really got me thinking. Each semester on the first day of class it has become a tradition of sorts in which he asks his students to write a paper on their interpretation of academic slavery. Once I started thinking, it began to flow like water. I immediately thought of several ways students are academically enslaved.

One area that I think students can identify with the most at the beginning of the year is financial aid. For instance, on the first day of school on my fee receipt, it showed that I owed money to the university. Now if anyone were to look at my fee receipt, they would have clearly seen that if my financial aid had been changed from estimated to applied, everything would be fixed. Because of this balance I was unable to get a book voucher or register for classes. I felt as if shackles were being put on my ankles and hindering me from freely walking into the school year and jumping into reading

the materials for my classes. Eventually, my issues were resolved when I finally got to speak to someone in financial aid. Another way that students are enslaved is by class cancellations and droppings because there are fewer than 10 students in a class. What usually ends up happening is the merging of smaller classes into one class, but this only offers an "underground railroad" stop until a student can reach freedom (acquire their degree) and can prolong the graduation process.

Another obvious category that can contribute to students' enslavement is professors. One way begins with the first day of school with the syllabus. In some professors' minds, they already have the days planned out when they want to have their test. If you are a student who has numerous classes on one day, you have already been enslaved to possibly have numerous tests on the same day and there is nothing that can be done about this unless the professor changes his/her mind or pace of teaching.

Rarely does a professor let the class decide. In addition, as a student I am enslaved to the teacher's personal teaching style

whether it accommodates or appeals to my learning style or not. I may not be a person who learns solely from lectures, but from visuals or hands-on exercises, but if the professor is one who likes to ramble on and on, I and my grade are at the mercy of his/her style. Another disadvantage of these professors are grading scales that don't reflect actual grades.

Some students may receive grades that they may not have necessarily earned and others may get left with the scraps of the other grades that the professor dishes out when in actuality, both did the same work. Professors can easily add to academic slavery by these means.

These are just two of the four ways I believe that a student can be academically enslaved. I will touch on two other ways (through parents and fellow students) in an upcoming issue of *The Panther*. Until then, I advise all to learn to rise to the occasion and face your oppression head on.

**Signed- That Girl**

### University Customer Service Needs Overhaul "Panthers don't deserve this"

In America we demand excellent customer service when we go out to spend money on goods and services. In my opinion, this situation should be the same here at Prairie View A&M University.

When you listen to Dr. Wright speak about his expectations of faculty and staff, I often wonder is this just going in one ear and out the other? It seems that customer service here on the "Hill" has failed so many of its students time and time again.

For example I am typing this article at 12:45 p.m. and I have already had over five bad incidents in customer service here today. For example after driving 30 minutes to school this morning from Houston, I arrived on campus to come and sit down for breakfast in the MSC Dining Hall.

When I finally got to

the front of the line after waiting for six minutes a lady said, "Their ain't no bacon so y'all gonna have to eat this turkey meat, or just wait?" Not only was I insulted by her tone of voice and horrible use of the English language, I was just thinking, Where do they get these people? After finally getting the bacon I proceeded to find a seat most of which were dirty.

When along with several other students I attempted to sit in an empty section of the cafeteria a lady who was supposed to be cleaning the tables felt the need to yell, "This section is closed!!" Looking at the facial expressions of students I could tell they felt just like me-pissed off, and uncomfortable in their own cafeteria in a building that they are paying for.

As I tried to finish my meal it was approaching ten minutes after 10, and the same lady told people that they need to start taking their dishes to the dish return. We, as students, pay ungodly amounts for meal

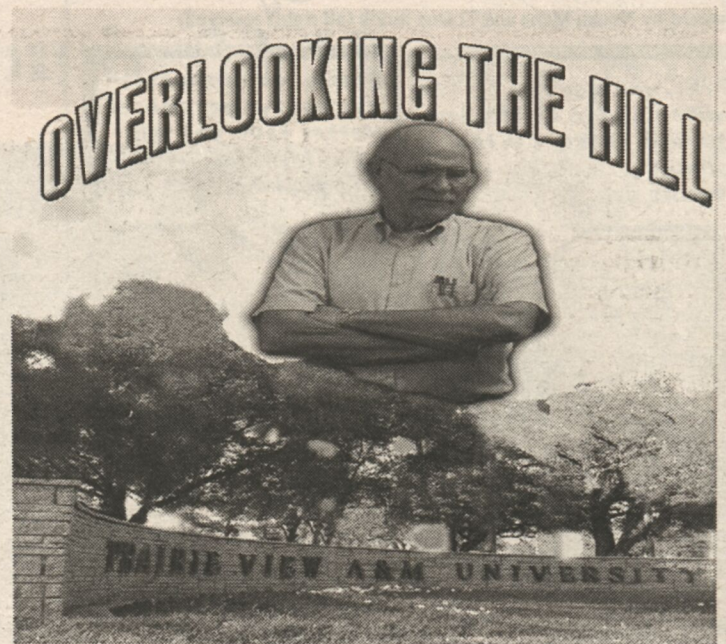
plans, and Panther passes, so we should demand excellent customer service when we are spending our, or in some of our cases our parent's, money here.

Often times students go to departments such as financial aid, parking, and the University Village and encounter some of the most ignorant, incompetent, unfitting, and just down right unprofessional people and attitudes.

If we as students demand customer service when we are off campus eating out, or shopping, then we need to demand it here where the bulk of our money goes.

As Cynthia Tucker of the Atlanta Journal Constitution said about the poor in the wake of Hurricane Katrina "the poor didn't deserve this," I end by saying "Panthers don't deserve this."

**Terrance Gilbert**



### War of the wars: Why Iraq is not Vietnam

By Dr. Charles Wukasch  
Faculty Contributor

Before going further, let me emphasize that I am 100% against the war in Iraq. I sympathize with the Cindy Sheehans of the United States and feel they have more moral fiber than do the beer-bellied counter-demonstrators whose contribution to rational discourse is to bellow out "God Bless America!" and wave the flag.

Now that I've established my progressive credentials on the war, however, let me criticize my liberal friends who make an analogy with Vietnam. We've all seen bumper stickers which read "Iraq Is Arabic for Vietnam" and the like. There are at least three reasons why the two conflicts are not comparable.

First, whatever the faults of the military, this time the U.S. is making an attempt to minimize civilian suffering and several U.S. soldiers have even faced trial for brutality against the Iraqis. There have been no My Lai's in Vietnam (the cold-blooded murder of hundreds of innocent Vietnamese civilians in 1968 by the U.S. Army) and there are none of the infamous free-fire zones of Vietnam. For those of you who aren't familiar with the term "free-fire zones," these were areas of Vietnam with a heavy concentration of guerrillas. The U.S. would drop leaflets into these areas warning the villagers to leave within a short period of time. After the deadline, any villager remaining could be shot on sight as a suspected member

of the Viet Cong.

Second, there are no Iraqis who have the moral stature of Ho Chi Minh, whom historians call the George Washington of Vietnam. Former President Dwight Eisenhower admitted that in a free election, Ho Chi Minh ("Uncle Ho" as the Vietnamese affectionately called him) would have won in a landslide. I remember American students demonstrating in the late 60s with chants of "Ho, Ho, Ho Chi Minh! NLF [National Liberation Front] is gonna win!" It's hard to imagine students today chanting something similar about Saddam Hussein.

Finally, the war in Vietnam was fought disproportionately by the poor, especially by soldiers of color. In those days of the draft, African-Americans, Latinos, and poor whites constituted most of the enlisted personnel. One remembers Stokely Carmichael's (Kwame Ture) famous statement as to why African-Americans should avoid serving in Vietnam: "No Viet Cong ever called me [the n-word]." The U.S. military today, although still far from perfect, is far more egalitarian than in the days of the Vietnam war.

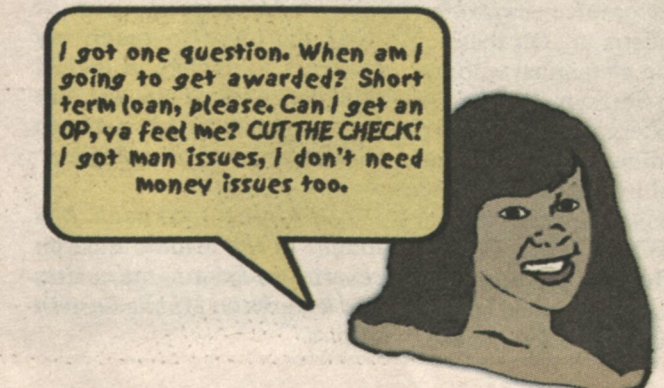
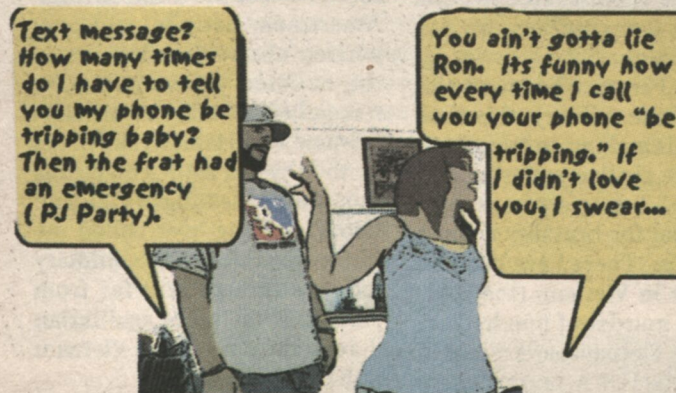
As a professor of English, I try to teach my students to engage in logical thinking. Oppose the war, but be sure you don't fall victim to fallacious historical analogies.

*Dr. Charles Wukasch has taught in the Middle East on several occasions and writes and lectures on Middle Eastern affairs.*



# The Hill Life...

Created by Nneka Meka and Trason Smith (all rights reserved)



## Searching for approval



By Nneka Meka  
Editor in Chief

...I promise, I'm so self-conscious...

At times it seems as if that little voice inside your head that points out all your imperfections finds a way to become so deafening that it begins to take precedence over every dimension of your life. It begins to rule the way you dress, the way you act, the places you go, the people you allow into your life, and everything you believe.

So what gives this tiny voice so much power? The response varies depending on whom you ask. Some blame the media, others family environment, abusive relationships or

other traumatic experiences. Whichever you believe, it's evident that on this campus several of us are walking models of insecurity and self-esteem issues.

Fellas, think about the girl in your 8 a.m. class who somehow always seems flawless. Not a stray hair on her head, designer jeans, and a walk that brings tears to your eyes. Sure if you ask her she may insist that she gets up three hours early and has practiced her walk for the last 15 years for her own benefit, and in some cases this could be true, but more than likely the driving force behind her rituals is the pursuit of pleasing someone else.

Ladies, you know the man I am about to describe. He has the nice car with the big rims, gold grill (...if that's what you like), always *blingin'* from his neck to his wrist. Yet if you ever get to really know him you find out he lives in a two-bedroom apartment with 10 of his closest homeboys, and solely depends on overpayment checks to rent his rims and pay his car note. This is a man who really has

twisted priorities.

Both are cases of allowing appearances to dictate your behavior or the way in which you live your life. With a glance, these are prevalent lifestyles at PV and beyond, transcending into the African American community.

According to the US Census Bureau, 24.4 percent of African Americans live below the poverty line. However we spend almost \$23 billion on clothes and \$46.7 billion on cars every year.

Personally, I believe that African Americans are still trying to compensate for years of oppression and feelings of exile. We are still searching for approval in our social, political, and occupational arenas. There are legions of us who are fueled by the opinions of others, and fishing for compliments to boost our self-esteem, in order to fulfill our desires to belong. Now, please don't be misled into believing that I'm preaching not to be "fly," or to not look your best!, LOVE YOURSELF

*We're all self-conscious; I'm just the first to admit it.*

**SUBMIT YOUR VIEWS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO  
PANTHER@PVAMU.EDU**

## PURPLE & GOLD POLL

What is the difference in the way in which your financial aid was handled this year in comparison to last year?



The financial aid process is getting more difficult. They make a big deal about turning in paperwork on time, but the counselors either lose it or take their time getting to it.

**-Kellie Ross  
Senior  
Health**



It was not on damn time.

**-Stephen White  
Sophomore  
Criminal Justice**



Our financial aid system is not handled in the same way or with the same efficiency as schools of "other colors." This year it showed even more.

**-Jeffery Franklin  
Senior  
Criminal Justice**



Last year it was bad, this year it was worse!

**-Neisha White  
Junior  
Communications**

Kenyetta Allen



## Panthers manhandle Paul Quinn in 39-12 easy win

By Palmer Perez  
Panther Staff

The Prairie View A&M University Panthers got their 2005 season under way with a 39-12 victory over the Paul Quinn Tigers. This game became the season opener for the Panthers after the originally scheduled contest between the Texas Southern Tigers was postponed due to relief efforts for hurricane Katrina victims.

In the first quarter at the 9:48 mark, Panther junior fullback Kerry Wilson took a handoff from quarterback Michael Hill and raced 25 yards to give Prairie View its first score. The drive lasted eight plays and spanned 80 yards. With 1:47 left in the first quarter, sophomore running back Arnell Fontenot scampered eight yards to the end zone to give the Panthers a comfortable 14-0 lead. The Panther defense allowed only 25 yards of total offense in the first quarter.

The start of the second quarter saw the Panthers go on another long scoring march, this time a six-play, 78-yard drive that was capped-off by a 29-yard run by Fontenot. For the half, Paul Quinn managed 62 yards of total offense.

With 9:15 left in the third period, Paul Quinn got on the scoreboard with an 11-yard touchdown pass from Marcus Carter to Drew Waters, bringing the score to 21-6. Prairie View improved on its score when sophomore quarterback Chris Gibson kept the snap and trotted into the end zone from eight yards out, to put the game at 27-6 with 4:57 remaining in the third period.

With the game getting out of reach, the Paul Quinn duo of Carter and Waters connected on a 23-yard touchdown pass with 10:35 remaining in the contest, their second of the night. The Panthers also scored two more times when Van Sallier picked off a two-point conversion for a score and sophomore running back Thomas Smith ran in a score from five yards out with 3:59 left to play.

"It was good to get this first victory under our belts and start the season off right. I thought we played real hard, despite all of the penalties," said head coach Henry Frazier III. "We have to work harder this week in practice to sharpen our execution on both sides of the ball, especially when it comes to penalties."



Photos courtesy of Marques Allen



**Top:** Fullback Kerry Wilson trucks over Paul Quinn defenders and heads to the end zone for the Panthers' first touchdown.

**Left:** Three-year letterman Vinson Moye dives to catch the ball.



# Cynthia Cooper, head coach of women's basketball at Prairie View

By Ryan McGinty  
Panther News Service

Cynthia Cooper, former head coach of the WNBA's Phoenix Mercury and two-time WNBA Most Valuable Player, was named the head women's basketball coach at Prairie View A&M University during the summer, according to athletics director Charles McClelland.

A native of Los Angeles, Calif., Cooper has won on every level of basketball. She attended the University of Southern California and was a four-year letter winner at the

participated and earned gold medals in the United States Goodwill Games (1986, 1990), World Championships (1986, 1990) and the 1987 Pan-American Games.

After an illustrious career overseas, Cooper returned to the United States in 1997 and was allocated to the Houston Comets of the newly formed WNBA.

She made an instant impact for the Comets by leading them to four consecutive WNBA titles and was named the WNBA Finals MVP during each championship run. She was selected to the WNBA first-team from 1997-2000 and

(602). She was voted in as a starter for the 1999, 2000 and 2003 WNBA All-Star Games and led the WNBA in scoring for three consecutive seasons.

Cooper's achievements off the court match her achievements on the court. An advocate for breast cancer research, she founded the Mary Cobbs "Building Dreams" Foundation in honor of her mother and has worked with General Motors Team Concept: Cure program.

An accomplished writer, Cooper wrote an autobiography titled *She Got Game* in 1999, and published a book project for elementary school children titled *Modern Fairy Tales*. In addition, she has also released a personal collection of poems called *Reflections*.

One of the most popular women to ever play the game of basketball, Cooper

has left her mark on the court with her own Nike shoe called the "Air C14."

She has also had an outdoor sports facility, "The

Coop," dedicated in her name at the Nike World Headquarters in Beaverton, Oregon, and was selected as one of 38 Houston sports legends honored at the opening ceremonies for Super Bowl XXXVIII: A Houston Salute on Jan. 26, 2004.

In a recent interview, Coach Cooper was asked why she chose coaching at Prairie View out of the many other opportunities that were presented to her and she responded, "First of all, I wanted to get back into coaching and I wanted to coach on the collegiate level. An opportunity at Prairie View allowed me to stay in the Houston area. When I met the athletic director and discovered his passion for the Prairie View athletic program and his desire to turn things around, it made me fall in love with coming to Prairie View."

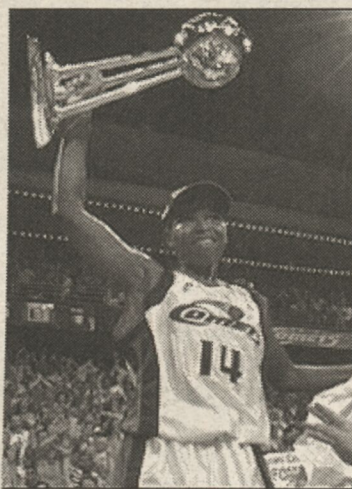


Photo courtesy of Associated Press

**True champion:** Cooper led the Houston Comets to four consecutive WNBA titles.



Photo courtesy of Associated Press

**A born winner:** Cooper's celebrity, winning attitude and great talents should make her an outstanding coach at Prairie View A&M University.

guard position from 1982-86. She led the Lady Trojans to back-to-back NCAA tournament titles in 1982 and 1983 and closed out her collegiate career with an appearance in the 1986 NCAA tournament championship game and a spot on the NCAA Final Four All-Tournament Team. Cooper ranks eighth on USC's all-time scoring list with 1,559 points, fifth in assists (381) and third in steals (256).

Cooper represented the United States and earned a gold medal in the 1988 Olympics and she won an Olympic bronze medal in 1992. She has also

was voted as the league's most valuable player in 1997 and 1998.

Cooper retired from the WNBA in 2000 and was named the head coach of the Phoenix Mercury in 2001, compiling a 19-23 overall record.

After spending two seasons on the sidelines, she returned to the court as a member of the Comets in 2003 but only played in four games due to injuries. She retired prior to the start of the 2004 season and finished her career as Houston's all-time leader in scoring (2,601), free throw percentage (.871) and assists

# CHOICE

## Early Career Opportunities

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## Big second half propels Dallas Baptist over Panthers

### Panther News Service

Despite holding an early lead, the Prairie View A&M University Lady Panthers soccer team dropped the third consecutive game of the season with a 7-2 loss to Dallas Baptist.

For the second consecutive game, the Lady Panthers scored the first goal of the game, when PVAMU freshman midfielder Mayra Castillo scored an unassisted goal to put the Lady Panthers up 1-0.

Things went unchanged for the next 15 minutes until DBU's Michelle Magnotta scored an unassisted goal to tie the match at one. Fifty-one seconds later, DBU's Angelica Sandoval broke the tie to give the Lady Patriots a 2-1 lead to close out the half.

"I stressed to them the importance of closing out halves," said head coach Felicia Davis. "I think we got a little fatigued towards the end of the first half. Soccer isn't

one of those sports that you can go out and compete in, if you're not in great shape."

Less than two minutes into the second period, sophomore midfielder Kalenna Marshall of the Lady Panthers scored a goal off an assist from freshman defender Gloria Andrade to once again tie the game at two.

The score remained tied for the next 25 minutes until Dallas Baptist broke the game open with five unanswered goals in a span of 12 minutes.

As a team, Prairie View had six shots, three shots-on-goal and one assist. Dallas Baptist countered with 33 shots, 19 shots-on-goal and two assists.

Lady Panther goalie Amy Miller had 12 saves for the game, with eight saves coming in the first period. "I told my team we have to continue to fight all the way thru games," said Davis. "We'll be playing short handed the next few games so everyone is going to have to step it up another level."

## Stigler named SWAC player of the week

### Panther News Service

For her performance last week, Prairie View A&M University outside hitter Crystal Stigler was named the Southwestern Athletic Conference volleyball player of the week. In addition, she was named to the University of North Texas Mean Green Classic all-tournament team.

Stigler, a 5-9, junior from Houston, had a .340 hitting percentage in four matches and averaged 3.69 kills over the week. In the ten games played at the Mean Green Classic, she led the tournament averaging 3.2 kills per game.

"Crystal is doing an excellent job for our team. She is a smart all-around player that brings a lot of momentum to our ball club," said head coach Alicia Pete. "She has stepped up her level of play since transferring from junior college to Division I. These honors and accolades are evidence of her hard work."

## NCAA sets boundaries for Louisiana athletes

### Associated Press

Division I basketball and football players from schools closed by Hurricane Katrina will still have to sit out for a year if they transfer to one of the many colleges that have offered admission, NCAA president Myles Brand said Tuesday.

Brand said the decision was made because the members of some teams, including at least one from Tulane, planned to

transfer together to one school. That could lead to the new school taking the entire team as its own, Brand said.

Some coaches at hurricane-affected schools in and around New Orleans had complained to the NCAA that coaches at other schools had tried to raid their teams and recruit their players, NCAA spokesman Wally Renfro said.

The NCAA expects schools affected by the hurricane to still participate this season.

## Drawing the line between sports and entertainment



By Rashad Morgan  
Sports Editor

The NFL season has officially started with the first Monday Night Football game played this past Monday. Every sports fan had to tune in to the matchup, which was the Philadelphia Eagles at the Atlanta Falcons.

For the past few years,

this matchup has been brewing into a rivalry, for the simple fact that you have Donavann McNabb versus Michael Vick, but this game particularly was significant because it was a rematch of last years' NFC championship game, which the Falcons lost.

Given the setting, everyone's emotions were already high, so the story goes...about an half hour before the game Eagles linebacker Jeremiah Trotter pushed Falcons cornerback Kevin Mathis, then Mathis responded with a punch, which caused a near all-out brawl.

As a result Trotter and Mathis were eventually ejected. Another brawl nearly broke out right after Eagles' players started to group at midfield standing on top of the Falcons' logo, which caused the whole Falcons team

to rush to the 50-yard line and fight for position.

By the looks on the players' faces, this was not pre-scripted.

Professional players need to learn to know when to draw the line in the beginning. No man wants to be disrespected in any way, especially when you are in front of a viewing audience, because everyone will fight for superiority, and this could be a never ending battle or turn into a 100-year old rivalry.

The bottom line is that everyone needs to respect others in all aspects of life. In this situation it cost the Eagles their first loss of the season, and it might have indirectly affected the situation that McNabb is in now with the injury he suffered during the game.

You have  
a mind to do  
**great**  
things.

Greatness runs  
in our family.



### SALES EXECUTIVE TRAINEES

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## What are you going to do?



**By Alanna Jones**  
L/H & A/E Editor

Being one of the editors for the paper, I am constantly listening to students' reactions about what was printed in the paper every week. I want to see if what I am doing, and the stories I assign for others to write are appreciated by the student body.

Last week I noticed a student looking at the newspaper, and he happened to be looking at one of my pages. He was talking very loudly, and complained about how one of the published stories meant nothing to him.

In my mind I began to think, "What is he going to

do about it?" I asked myself this because I complain, and I witness students around campus complaining also. But what is a complaint without a solution to the problem?

The newspaper's efforts are to try and bring the best PV news forward, and be entertaining all the same. It is easy to complain about what should and should not be in the paper, but what steps have you taken to put forth ideas?

"The Panther" is the students' newspaper. What that means is that the paper belongs to each and every student at PV. Instead of complaining about the hard work that is put into the paper every week, be a part of the solution.

How can you be a part of the solution? The Panther has meetings every Monday at 5 p.m. at the MSC in room 219, and we have an e-mail address: panther@pvamu.edu. Bring all your ideas and complaints so The Panther staff can help solve the problem.

Next time you find yourself complaining about material in your paper, ask yourself, "Have I done anything about it."

## What's on your skin?

**By Jamaur Barnes**  
Panther Staff

Many things plague the Black community. Among them are economical, religious, social trials, and especially major health issues. In addition to being highly inflicted with HIV and AIDS, on a smaller scale, we are being impacted by skin problems as well.

One of the most major skin ailments plaguing our culture is Acne Vulgaris, or Acne. Acne occurs when oil and dead skin cells clog the skin's pores. A recent study done through the 85 percent of teens and adults are mildly, if not fully, affected by acne. Acne not only takes a toll on a person's physical well being, but mental state as well.

Senior Audrey K. Sam states that, "I struggled with acne for eight whole years, and it was such a hassle both internally and externally. It's like you want to hide behind a mask but you can't, because your face is your mask."

Symptoms of acne in-

clude whiteheads, blackheads, and pimples. While the Black community is one of the most heavily affected by acne due to the large amounts of oil that ethnic skin produces and retains, it is still treatable, and in most cases curable. Gentle cleansing with soap or non-prescription products such as benzoyl peroxide lotions, often control mild acne cases and prevent new breakouts.

"I have found that Proactive treatments and Dove facial wash are very effective" says Sam.

Another disorder which is making its way through the Black community is Keloids, an overgrowth of scar tissue on the skin most often seen on the shoulders and chest. "Keloids are very crucial among blacks. Most people know someone with them or either have them and are ignorant as to what exactly they are," says Junior Cerissa Edwards.

Keloids can appear anywhere and usually arise in an area of injury, such as after a burn or severe acne, or from a minor scratch. Apma-nc.com

explains that keloids are more frequent in blacks than in whites and are not transmitted from individual to individual. While Keloids are serious, they are not life threatening and can be treated with steroid injections, radiation surgery, silastic gel, or skin grafting surgery.

In addition to Acne and Keloids, another skin issue that is silently creeping up on blacks is Psoriasis. Psoriasis is a chronic disorder, which occurs within (but is not limited to) both black men and women of all ages and is most common within the age ranges of 20-40. The disorder starts out as a few small flakey patches, which may be red or silver, known as plaque. The plaque areas can enlarge and increase in number and have been known to erupt all over the body. While Psoriasis is severe, it is treatable with topical treatments, light treatments, or systematic medication.

While these disorders are serious, none of them are deadly and they can all be treated with the help of a doctor or physician.

## The medical corner

### Immunizations: part of the college experience

**Theresa Okeyo-Owuor and Prof. Dennis E. Daniels, MPH, Dr. PH**  
Medical Correspondent

Immunizations are a topic of importance to college students. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) work tirelessly to make vaccines as safe as possible. Years of tests are required by law before a vaccine can be licensed and made available to the public. Vaccines continue to be monitored for safety and efficacy after licensing.

Universities such as the University of Florida urge students who reside on cam-

pus to receive vaccinations for Meningococcal meningitis and Hepatitis B. Meningococcal meningitis is a rare but severe brain and spinal cord infection that can lead to nerve damage, amputations and sometimes death. Hepatitis B can lead to chronic liver disease and liver cancer. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention include a recommendation for

an annual influenza vaccine for persons with chronic illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease as part of the recommended adult immunization schedule.

If you travel outside of the United States, you may need additional vaccines including Hepatitis A vaccine. Adequate immunization is a lifelong, life protecting job. For more information, students may contact the Owens-Franklin Student Health Center at (936) 857-2511, CDC at (800-232-4636) or the Immunization Action Coalition at (651) 647-9009.



Courtesy of Associated Press

## Soul Survivor

Have you overcome a medical miracle?

E-mail your story or information to

[www.panther@pvamu.edu](mailto:www.panther@pvamu.edu)



# Life after loans

By Erika L. Green  
Panther Staff

Most students are either aspiring to begin a college career, or trying to finish their college education. But what happens if the money is not available? Loans are the next best thing to remedy this dilemma. Although this is not always the best option, many students continue to seek refuge in loans. Some even get loan happy, after realizing the number of dollars that can be accumulated from overpayment checks that are stuffed with loan money.

Although overpayment checks present students with numerous monetary options, loans that granted these checks present these same students with another issue, debt (not to exclude students that take out

loans but do not receive overpayment checks.) These students will also come face to face with the debt issue. This is because loans, especially education loans, must be repaid with interest.

According to 2003-2004 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study two-thirds of undergraduate students graduate with some debt, and average federal student loan debt among graduating seniors is \$19, 202. When one includes PLUS loans in the total, the average cumulative debt incurred is \$21, 814. Furthermore, FinAid.com states that the interest rate on the Stafford Loan is 5.30 percent and the PLUS loan is 6.19 percent. Interest rates are expected to increase by a further 1.5 percent to 2.0 percent on July 1, 2006. With all this said, tuition is still rising, campus-housing rent is rising, and gas definitely cost an arm and a leg.

So what's a student to do? Be more responsible! "If you're responsible, you will pay back loans with the overpayment. Unfortunately, many students shop with their overpayment checks," stated Senior Natasha Octave. Many students splurge on non-necessities with overpayment checks, but many see loans as just an aid to paying for school and debt is just something that will come with it. Senior Lee 'Smurf' Sumlin said, "We do not have jobs, yet the economy gives us expenses like we are in the real world making real world money. Loans just help."

College is expensive and loans do assist in deferring the cost. However, check the interest rates because too many African Americans are going in debt because of LOANS. Remember, be responsible now with overpayment checks and you will not see the wrath of debt later.

# The "N" Word

By Jeremy Easley  
Panther Staff

From today's music, comedy shows, and top blockbuster movies, the "N" word, also known as "Nigger," is thrown around without a single thought.

Sitting in the library one will experience multiple conversations using the downgrading slur as if there is not another way to express love to his or her peers. In a 10-minute sitting, the "N" word was used 30 times.

So what's so bad about this word? First, one must understand the history behind it's meaning to fully grasp its negative connotation. Students across the campus were asked if they knew the history of this infamous word? Most students know only of its use during slavery and the civil rights movement when whites were the only people who used it against blacks.

Nigger can be traced to the Latin word niger, meaning black. Soon it traveled to the English language where negro meant black person, and the color black in the Spanish language. Later in

the French language niger had been transformed to negre and negress (black woman).

When did Nigger become such a degrading word? As the students had known, in the 1800s, the southerners of America had mispronounced the word Negro and the word nigger was born. Ever since, the use of the word Nigger had been a racial epithet towards blacks. It is the cruelest word in American history to date, not just used against blacks, but Africans and African Americans.

So why do we use it? Junior Royce Norsworthy says, "It's nothing personal against anybody, it's just a figure of speech. It's a part of my everyday language." Unlike Norsworthy, all students don't use the "N" word. Junior Jasmine Goudeau states, "Everybody has a name, why label someone as the 'N' word? If you know the definition behind it, why wouldn't you take in effect what they labeled us?"

It seems as if every person has an opinion and spin on the word, whether it be nigger or nigga. Is there a difference in these two words? It depends on

how you use it says Junior Chris Taylor, "If I'm saying, 'what's up my nigga?' then it's not bad. But, if I say, 'I hate that nigga,' then it is a problem."

Nigga is actually more gender specific when it comes to African-American youth, and it usually refers to males. Older African-Americans don't see it that way. It is offensive no matter who may use it in his or her language. "I think that the word has been taken and used to another meaning," says Marvin Daniels, a library assistant. "A nigga is really a stupid person. We are not stupid people and never have been."

In understanding the actual history, which goes beyond slavery, one shouldn't be offended by the use of the word. On the other hand, during the 1800s up to today, the word is infused with negativity, and because of this, some feel that it should be removed from the English language. Whether the "N" word is used in a friendly manner, or offensive, it is the responsibility of the black culture to show other cultures how they should be portrayed.

*Want to be the next freshman  
featured in  
"PV's Freshest?"*

E-mail The Panther @  
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## Sex on the first date

By Raquel Clark  
Panther Staff

Dating used to be very different. The typical date would consist of your date showing up at the door with a rose, and being nervous about your father's "bring my daughter home by 11 o'clock," speech. Having sex on the first date was not even heard of. As a matter of fact, most women would not even consider kissing on the first date. Ironically, things have changed.

In today's society, it seems that things that were considered morally incorrect in the past, are socially accepted. "I don't mind giving it out on the first date," says a student whom we will call Jane Doe. "If I'm feeling my date, then I'm just feeling him," she says thrusting her hip to one side, a symbol of her sassiness.

Jane Doe is part of the no shame in my game, sex on the first date crew that has hit the dating scene. When informed of Jane Doe's comment,

Krystle Simpson, a graduating nursing student here at Prairie View replied, "Jane Doe should be considerably careful considering the rise in HIV and STDs among young adults."

It is safe to say that most of the student body here at Prairie View agree with Krystle. "Personally, if it's that easy I don't want it. If a girl gives out on the first date, I would have to question her self-esteem," states Alvin Sumler who is currently studying construction science. "It's just not right."

Although it can be confidently stated that there are a lot of people here on campus who have the same views as Jane, no one else was willing to admit being easily hit with the mule. "I think it makes you less of a woman," stated Stephanie Williams, a senior education major. "You have to leave something to the imagination." "I agree with Stephanie," said freshman Cameron Thibodeaux. "I'm not looking for sex on the first date. I just chill, 'cause if you worry about it too much, it will mess up your date."



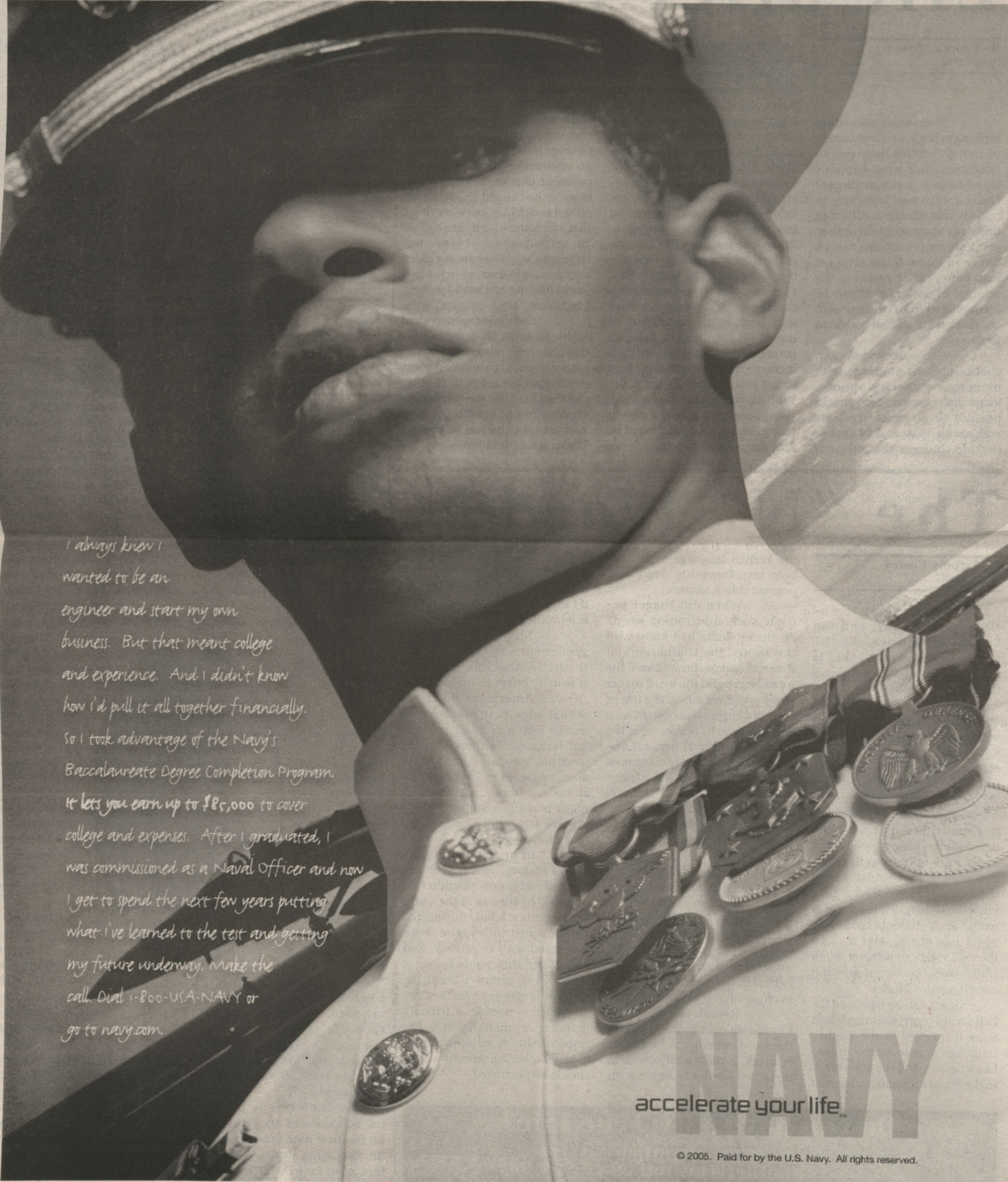
Photo by Marques Allen

**No sex tonite!** PV students display how affection can be shown without having sex on the first date.

**Do you have a PV True Life?**

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# The Fashion Fanatic

By Jovita Johnson  
Panther Staff

## Women

Color: Orange

Hair: Natural

Style: Classy yet comfortable

## Look of the Week Casual

Top:

Asymmetrical v-neck sequined top

Bottom:

Ripped jeans  
High-top tennis shoes  
Accessories:  
Small hoops or studs  
Small handbag  
Charm bracelet

## Look of the Week Dress

Top:

Plunging neckline sleeveless dress

Bottom:

Pointy toe stiletto pumps

Accessories:

Mid-face earrings

Thick bangle bracelets

Small evening bag

## Men

Color: Pale Yellow

Hair: Short/Fade/Dreads

Style: Relaxed

## Look of the Week Casual

Top:

Tall white tee

Bottom:

Baggy jeans

White tennis shoes

Accessories:

Casual watch

## Look of the Week Dress

Top:

Crew neck tee

Two button suit jacket

Bottom:

Pleated slacks

Round toe dress shoes

Accessories:

Dress Watch (Silver, Gold, or Platinum)

Leather swivel belt

Necklace

## Color Me Handsome

Most men don't put much thought into dressing up. The first thought is to throw on a white button down shirt, dark suit, dark tie, and comfortable shoes. But, it is wise to keep in mind that color is as important as comfortable shoes. Adding color to a suit makes the wearer stand out. A solid brighter shirt along with a slightly darker tie and handkerchief makes a suit more noticeable. Remember, fellas, when going in for a job interview, add a little color to stand out and be noticed.



Photo by Otis Clayborne

**What time is it?** PV student displays how a casual male watch is to be worn.



Panther Poetry Lounge

## That Night

By Tanisha Nicole Preacher

That Night when we kissed I thought I experienced  
what some call heavenly bliss

That Night when I took you into my mouth  
and you proceeded to scream and shout and then  
we switched and I experienced your lips

That Night when you entered my body we had  
our own exclusive party

That Night I thought we had found something  
so solid something so sound but now I see that

That Night for you wasn't what it was for me

That Night I thought it was genuine I thought  
it was pure but I guess I shouldn't have been so sure  
because

That Night I loved you in a way that I have never loved  
a man before and in return out of my body  
my heart you tore

That Night when we kissed I thought I experienced  
what some call heavenly bliss but time has passed  
and now I see that the ONE-NIGHT-STAND-ONLY  
memo

I should've received somehow failed to reach me  
**THAT NIGHT**

## Events for September 15-21, 2005

### Thursday, 9/15

CAB  
Movie Night  
6 p.m.-10 p.m. MSC

NAACP meeting  
6:05 p.m.-8:05 p.m.  
MSC

Alpha Lambda Omega  
Bible Study  
7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.  
Chapel

### Friday, 9/16

Multicultural Affairs  
Latino History Month  
9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
MSC

Student Activities  
Hip Hop Dance  
Workshop  
3 p.m.-8 p.m.  
MSC

### Saturday, 9/17

Student Activities  
Hip Hop Dance  
Workshop  
9 a.m.-2 p.m.  
MSC

### Sunday, 9/18

Phi Beta Sigma Meeting  
6 p.m.-9 p.m.  
J.B. Coleman Library

### Monday, 9/19

Career Services  
Student Recognition  
Banquet  
5 p.m.-9 p.m.  
MSC

Multicultural Affairs  
Latino Movie Nights  
7 p.m.-9:30 p.m.  
MSC

### Tuesday, 9/20

Alpha Kappa Alpha  
African American Art  
6 p.m.-9 p.m.  
New Science

Classroom Visits/ Mock  
Interviews  
All Day

### Wednesday, 9/21

Career Fair- Technical Day  
9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
MSC

NAACP Membership Drive  
12 noon-2:30 p.m.  
MSC

CAB Hump Day  
12 noon-2 p.m.  
Outside MSC

Social Work Club Seminar  
6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.  
J.B. Coleman Library



## 20 QUESTIONS



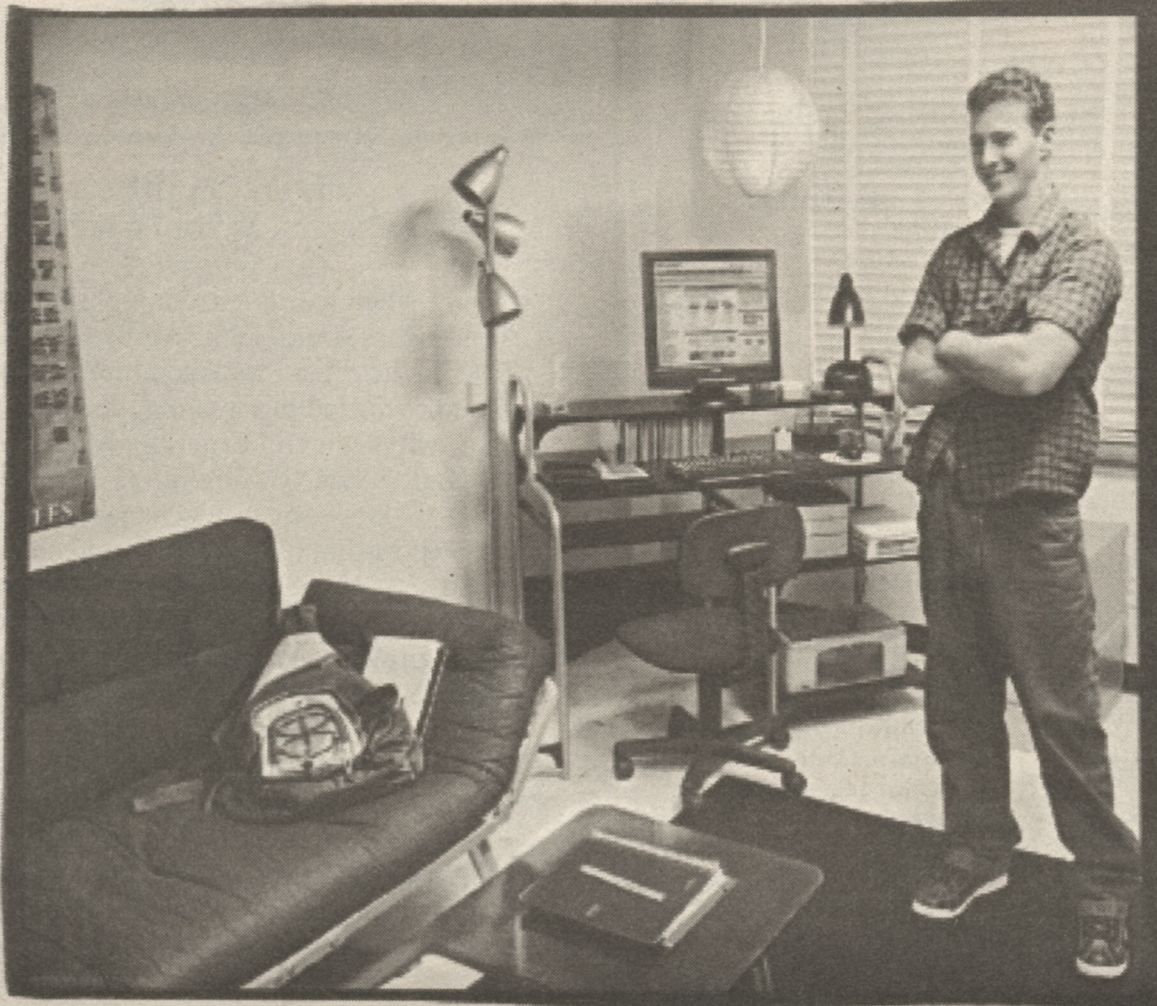
1. If the parking attendants misspell words like Honda (Hunda), and Blue (Blu) don't they need to focus more on class, and less on tickets?
2. When will the buses arrive so they can take those vans back to Enterprise?
3. Once we are finally awarded, can the new director hire a new staff?
4. Doesn't the new architecture building look like Alcatraz or Death Row?
5. What does that say about PV students?
6. What does our school really think of us?
7. Who set Hobart on fire?
8. Why did one of the bike cops fall off his bike in UC and think no one saw?
9. Don't you miss Super Tito?
10. Aren't we glad the football team won?
11. Why did financial aid speak at the pep rally?
12. Couldn't there have been another name for the hurricane?
13. Why is this the only hurricane with a ghetto name?
14. Who is the girl who thought she was so cute at the Babydome party until her ponytail fell out?
15. When is the next Toga Party?
16. Who got dropped out of the system and will they ever get put back?
17. What happened to the Black Foxes?
18. Who got caught up on facebook?
19. Doesn't he know cheaters never win?
20. What do you think?

This is for **entertainment only**. The questions submitted are not the views of **The Panther**. Want to tell us what you think? Please bring your comments and questions to Rm. 219 MSC or e-mail us at [panther@pvamu.edu](mailto:panther@pvamu.edu). Questions are printed at the discretion of **The Panther**.

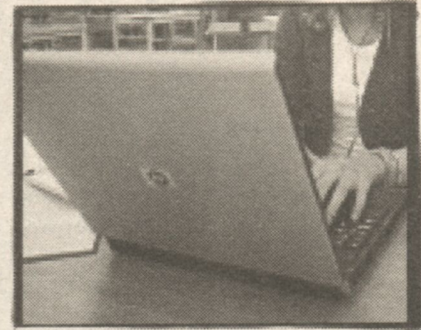
Organizations are not allowed to have events until the 12th class day.



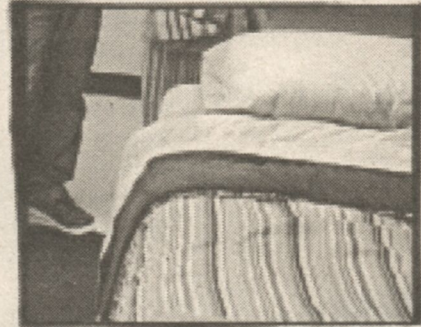
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